

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 IO-11 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 AID-05 SAB-01 /093 W

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P R 011635Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7875

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL TANGIER

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

FOSIF ROTA

COMSIXTHFLT

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USCINCEUR AND CINCUSNAVEUR ALSO FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PBOR AG MO MR SP SS OAU

SUBJECT: SAHARA ROUNDUP

1. GOM CLAIMS VICTORY AT OAU. AFTERNOON SEMI-OFFICIAL MAROC

SOIR MARCH 1 PROCLAIMED "DEFEAT" OF ALGERIA AT OAU FONMIN

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MEETING, NOTING THAT CONFERENCE ADJOURNED MORNING MAR 1 AFTER

NONSTOP 12 HOUR NIGHT SESSION WITHOUT TAKING DECISION ON RECOGNITION OF THE SAHARAN DEMOCRATIC ARAB REPUBLIC (SDAR). EDITORIAL COMPLIMENTED "REMARKABLE INTERVENTION" OF FONMIN LARAKI WHICH PLACED EVERYONE BEFORE HIS RESPONSIBILITIES IN SUPPORTING OAU CHARTER. EDITORIAL EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS NEW "STINGING DEFEAT" FOR ALGERIA WOULD BE "DEFINITIVE".

2. GOM, ALONG WITH MAURITANIA, HAD BEEN PUBLICLY THREATENING TO WITHDRAW FROM OAU IF SESSION RECOGNIZED SAHARAN GOVERNMENT. IT MADE LONG INTERVENTION FEB 29 REBUTTING ALGERIAN MEMORANDUM POINT-BY-POINT.

3. MORE GOM REACTIONS TO SDAR. LARAKI WAS ALSO QUOTED BY OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY MAP IN ADDIS FEB 28 AS DENOUNCING "ALGERIAN INITIATIVE" OF LAUNCHING SDAR, WHICH HE CHARGED ATTEMPTED TO MASK PAST ALGERIAN FAILURE TO OBTAIN SUPPORT OF OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES (SEE RABAT 1162 FOR OTHER GOM REACTION TO SDAR).

4. MAURITANIAN ANGLE. IN INTERVIEW WITH OULD DADDAH PUBLISHED IN FEB 29 ISTIQLALI L'OPINION, MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT QUOTED AS SAYING CERTAIN ARAB COUNTRIES PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO OFFSET COSTS OF MAURITANIAN MILITARY CAMPAIGN. HE SAID THIS AID ACTUALLY SURPASSING GIRM'S EXPENDITURES FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE. HE ALSO SAID GIRM WOULD PARTICIPATE IN EXPLOITATION OF BOU CRAA PHOSPHATES (WHICH UNDER MOROCCAN CONTROL IN NORTHERN SAHARA) BUT THAT "MODALITIES" HAD NOT YET BEEN WORKED OUT WITH GOM. MAURITANIAN AMB HERE EVADED QUESTION IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION FEB 29 AS TO WHEN GOM/GIRM ACCORDS ON SAHARA, INCLUDING BOUNDARY, WOULD BE RELEASED BUT HE REPEATED STANDARD LINE THAT THERE WERE NO PROBLEMS.

5. COMMENT: IN LINE WITH GOM/GIRM POLICY OF RAPIDLY CONSOLIDATING INTEGRATION OF SAHARA INTO THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES, WE WOULD EXPECT DETAILS OF ACCORDS -- WHICH WERE PROMISED AFTER FEB 28 DEADLINE -- TO BE REVEALED SHORTLY, PERHAPS IN KING'S ANNUAL THRONE DAY SPEECH, MARCH 3.
NEUMANN

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